



## State of Connecticut

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE CAPITOL

**REPRESENTATIVE SEAN WILLIAMS**  
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**ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN LEADER**

**RANKING MEMBER**  
FINANCE REVENUE AND BONDING COMMITTEE

**MEMBER**  
ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE  
LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COMMITTEE

Public Safety and Security Committee  
Public Testimony  
Thursday, February 7, 2013

Dear Senator Hartley, Representative Dargan, Senator Andres, Representative Verrengia, Senator Guglielmo, Representative Giegler, and Public Safety and Security Committee Members,

I submit this testimony in support of HB 5277, AN ACT LEGALIZING AND REGULATING MIXED MARTIAL ARTS.

This bill legalizes and regulates the sport of mixed martial arts within the State of Connecticut. This bill requires those participating in mixed martial arts to adhere to stringent laws and regulations.

In addition to ensuring competitor's safety, this bill will create a revenue source for the state. Along with the licensing and registration fees, the bill imposes a 5% tax on the gross receipts of ticket sales. The funds collected through the tax will go into the State's General Fund. It is estimated that an event held at the XL Center in Hartford could result in up to \$350,000 in revenue for the state, as well as spinoff revenue for the municipality.

So far 48 states have legalized mixed martial arts; New York and Connecticut are the only two that disallow the sport. I encourage the Committee to support HB 5277.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "SWilliams".

Sean Williams  
State Representative  
68<sup>th</sup> District